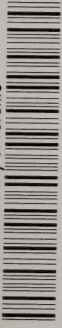


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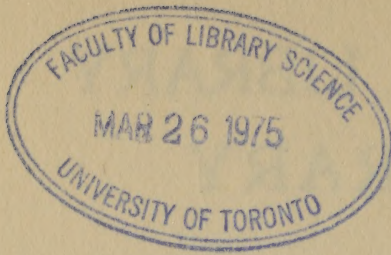
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## PREFACE.

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A LITTLE handbook of this kind has been frequently in demand especially by Colonial and American librarians who have some time to spend in Britain. As a rule, these visitors have no interest in seeing the same kind of library methods over and over again, and for that reason an effort has been made to avoid describing libraries which are nearly identical in arrangements. Many libraries of interest are thus omitted, but it will be understood that this is inevitable where selection is absolutely necessary. The visitor who uses this little brochure will have the advantage of visiting places which possess any interest, while he will be spared the waste of time, trouble and cost of going to libraries whose methods he has seen in other places. A selective list must necessarily be incomplete, and for any serious omissions the author can only apologize in advance.

J. D. B.

*January, 1913.*

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# A BRITISH LIBRARY ITINERARY.

BY JAMES DUFF-BROWN.

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THE idea of this itinerary has been inspired by a number of requests from British, Colonial, American and foreign librarians, who desired to obtain a good, general notion of British library work and conditions, without too much overlapping and monotony. While one might say that all libraries are worth visiting it must be remembered that questions of time, cost and special interest have all to be considered. This itinerary deals, therefore, with typical libraries of various sorts, or those distinguished by architectural features or special collections. It may be said generally, that many libraries are alike in their policy and methods, and it is not necessary to refer to such types more than once, unless additional features of interest exist. For the sake of convenience the itinerary is arranged according to centres, which will enable a choice to be made of particular localities or individual libraries. Thus, a traveller from Canada or the United States landing at Liverpool can start at that city and work up to London, or go North to Scotland. Generally speaking, practically every type of library can be seen in London, and those who have little time and money are advised to make their headquarters there. The notes are such as are interesting to librarians chiefly, and cover most points which can be described from the outside. These must be supplemented by first hand inspection and the information to be gained at the several institutions. Other important libraries are mentioned and described in *The Libraries, Museums and Art Galleries Year-Book, 1910-11*, edited by Alex. J. Philip, and published by Scott, Greenwood & Son, London (7s. 6d. net); and *The Libraries of London*, by R. A. Rye, 1910, published by the University of London (2s. 6d. net). As a rule it is best to pay visits between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., unless previous arrangements are made.

## LIVERPOOL CENTRE.

LIVERPOOL (746,566). Municipal Libraries. The Central Library (1852), comprising the Picton reading and lecture rooms, William Brown Library, Hornby Art Library, etc., forms part of the great group of educational buildings facing St. George's Hall, in which are included

the Walker Art Galleries, the Museum and Technical Schools. Has many fine collections, and notable activities. There are eleven branch libraries and several reading rooms distributed throughout the City. Most of these have children's rooms. Card-charging in all the lending libraries; open access in most recent buildings. Free lectures are delivered at the Picton Lecture Hall and at sixteen centres in various parts of the city. Librarian: George T. Shaw.

Liverpool Library, Lyceum (1758). A proprietary library (subscription) with some club features added. One of the earliest of its kind in England. Librarian: James Hutt, M.A. The Athenæum is a somewhat similar institution dating from 1798.

University Library (1892) is an example of a modern scholastic library, founded by the late Sir Henry Tate, sugar refiner. There are main and departmental libraries. Librarian: Dr. John Sampson, M.A.

Liverpool is a great shipping and manufacturing centre, and receives most of the cotton from the United States and elsewhere. It has some fine public parks and other places of interest. It is connected with the Cheshire shore of the Mersey (Birkenhead, etc.) by means of steamboat ferries and a subway.

BOOTLE (69,881). N.W. of Liverpool and adjoining it. Public Library and Museum, Oriol Road. Has most of the features of medium-sized English libraries, including lecture courses, school deliveries, etc., and employs the indicator system in the lending department. Librarian: Chas. H. Hunt.

BIRKENHEAD, Cheshire (130,832). Public Library, with two branches. Occupies a new building (1909), and is an example of an old library (1856) in new quarters.

WALLASEY, Cheshire (78,514). N.W. of Birkenhead and connected by rail, boat, etc. Public Library. The central library occupies a new building at Liscard, and there are several branch reading-rooms. The open access system is in use, with card charging. New Brighton, a popular seaside place, is included in the borough. Librarian: E. A. Savage.

CHESTER, Cheshire (39,038). Public Library of ordinary English type, with indicator and card-charging. Not closely classified, save in reference department. Librarian: Edwin C. Brown. This is a famous cathedral city on the River Dee, with finely preserved portions of the old city wall, covered-in raised pavements and many old houses. The cathedral is a very beautiful building, and has the remains of a mediæval library.

SOUTHPORT, Lancashire (51,650). The Atkinson Free Library, Lord Street, is arranged for open access to reference books and non-fictional lending books. There are two branches. Librarian: Frederick H. Mills. Southport is a favourite seaside resort, with a large, sandy beach, a long pier, and in Lord Street possesses one of the handsomest streets in England.

**BLACKPOOL**, Lancashire (58,376). Has a central Public Library building and three branches. The central building (1909) is quite new, and is planned for the open access system. Librarian: Rowland Hill. Blackpool is one of the most popular seaside resorts in England, with numerous attractions and shows of all kinds.

**PRESTON**, Lancashire (117,113). Harris Public Library and Museum. This is a magnificent stone building of classic design, and houses an art gallery and museum. It is one of the library buildings of England which ought to be visited. A ledger charging system is in use. The town is a busy industrial and railway centre, on the River Ribble, which is a picturesque stream in its upper reaches.

**WIGAN**, Lancashire (89,171). Public Libraries. Central, Rodney Street, has a large reference library, especially rich in mining bibliography, local history, etc. There is an elaborate printed catalogue. Charging by indicator. Partial open access. Librarian: H. T. Folkard. Wigan is a great coal-mining centre, and some interesting sights are to be seen in connection with this industry.

**HAIGH HALL**, near Wigan, is a seat of the Earl of Crawford, and contains a remarkable collection of valuable books on many subjects, and includes the Lindsay library. Papal bulls, proclamations, and similar historical documents are prominent items. Permission to view the collection, which is luxuriously housed, can no doubt be obtained from the librarian, by any librarian-tourist, on application.

### MANCHESTER CENTRE.

**MANCHESTER**, Lancashire (714,427), Public Libraries. This is one of the oldest and most extensive library systems in England, with twenty-four branches and several reading-rooms. Many of the branches are old-fashioned in their methods, but some of the recent ones have been organized on modern progressive lines. The central library is at present in a transitory state, in temporary premises, awaiting the erection of a large new building. It possesses many fine special collections—Music, Shorthand, Textiles, Gipsies, etc.—and a large “Librarians’ Library” bequeathed by Thomas Greenwood, the author of various works on Public Libraries. Librarian: C. W. Sutton, M.A.

John Rylands Library, Deansgate. A magnificent building founded in 1899 by Mrs. Rylands, who also endowed the library. Has numerous rare manuscripts and early printed books, including the Spencer collection. Although largely theological in character, the library represents all branches of learning, omitting science. There are printed and MS. catalogues. Librarian: Henry Guppy, M.A.

University Library. Comprising many special collections, like the Christie, Freeman, Jevons, Arnold, etc., on different subjects. Brussels Decimal scheme of classification in use. Librarian: Chas. W. E. Leigh.



Chetham's Library, founded by Humphry Chetham in 1653, as part of an educational college for boys. The library contains over 50,000 volumes, and is quaintly housed in part of the old college buildings.

Manchester is a very important centre both in industrial and library work and should on no account be passed over.

SALFORD adjoining Manchester (231,380). Public Libraries, Peel Park. Central Library, Museum and Art Gallery in large building in Peel Park. Library organized on Manchester lines, with a ledger system of charging. Has six branches, and organizes popular lectures. Librarian and Curator: B. H. Mullen, M.A.

STOCKPORT, Cheshire (108,693), S.E. of Manchester. Public Libraries comprise a new central building and a branch at Reddish. An old library, recently converted to the open access system with the decimal classification. Librarian: Richard Hargreaves.

OLDHAM, Lancashire (147,495), N.E. of Manchester. Central Library, Union Street; branch library at Northmoor; ten delivery stations. There is a museum and Art Gallery. A great cotton manufacturing centre. Librarian: Wm. H. Berry.

BOLTON, Lancashire (180,885) Public Library. Another re-organized library system comprising a central building and several branches of which three are new Carnegie buildings. Has both indicator and open access methods in the branches. There is a museum in a separate building. Librarian: Archibald Sparke.

BURY, Lancashire (58,649) Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery. Library recently re-organized on open access system. Subject classification applied to shelves and catalogue. Librarian and Curator: Harry Townend.

DARWEN, Lancashire (40,344). Public Library. In new building presented by Andrew Carnegie. Has open access in all departments, lectures, reading circle, school libraries, etc. Librarian: Joseph Pomfret.

BLACKBURN, Lancashire (133,064). Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery. The library in its lending department is worked by means of an indicator, with a numerical classification in main classes. There are eight delivery stations. Has special collection of books on cotton spinning and weaving. Librarian: Richard Ashton.

From this point the railway can be taken to Whalley station, from whence a drive can be arranged to Stonyhurst College, a fine building for the education of Roman Catholics. There is a very interesting library, and the surrounding country is pretty and hilly.

ACCRINGTON, Lancashire (45,031). Public Library, St. James Street, occupies a new Carnegie Building opened in 1908. Has the open access system in vogue; obliterates betting news in newspapers. Lecture and children's rooms provided. Librarian: John W. Singleton

## BIRMINGHAM CENTRE.

**BIRMINGHAM** (840,372). Public Libraries. Central Library building, Ratchiff Place. Contains all usual departments, and has a splendid Shakespeare collection, kept in a special room. Has twenty-two branch buildings, and under new scheme of borough extension has taken in adjoining areas of Aston Manor, Handsworth, King's Norton and Erdington already possessing libraries. Has lectures and other activities. It has also a very large local collection and smaller collections relating to Byron, Cervantes, and Milton. Librarian: Walter Powell.

The old Birmingham Library (1779) is an example of a subscription library in good premises, though it has been less successful since its removal from its old premises which were more central. The University Law and Medical Libraries are also interesting.

**LEICESTER** (227,242). Public Library. Central building (Wellington Street) and six branches. Example of a library system on ordinary English lines. Has a special local collection. Librarian: C. Vernon Kirkby.

**KETTERING**, Northampton (29,976). Public Library (Carnegie building, 1904). Organized on advanced modern lines, with Adjustable Classification and safe-guarded open access. Well-planned and arranged library, probably one of the best English small town libraries. Librarian: Miss Kate E. Pierce. Kettering is a great centre for boot and shoe making.

**NORTHAMPTON** (90,076). Public Library. An old library housed in a new building. Adjustable Classification used with open access to shelves. Has a very fine museum of local and other antiquities, the library of John Clare and a collection of drawings, etc. on archæological matters by Sir Henry E. L. Dryden, Bart. Librarian: R. W. Brown. Curator: Thos. J. George.

**OXFORD** (53,049). Great university city, with many libraries housed in colleges, besides such endowed institutions as the Bodleian Library, Radcliffe Library, etc. Mr. F. Madan, M.A. is Bodley's librarian. No difficulty should be experienced in obtaining permission to view the Bodleian or any of the college libraries, if a visitor's card is produced. The Public Library forms part of the Town Hall building, and is rather crowded. There is a nice reading room upstairs, but the need for a new building is very marked. Librarian: J. L. Dougan, M.A.

For those who desire to see a model village library, an excursion may be made to Winslow (Bucks) the nearest station to **MIDDLE CLAYDON**, Steeple Claydon, Water Eaton and Grandborough, a group of parish libraries largely maintained through the interest of the Verney family and others in the district. They are monuments to the enthusiasm for library extension of an old and historic English family.

**CHELTENHAM**, Gloucestershire (48,944). The Public Library contains also a museum and art gallery. There are special collections of books on natural history and medicine. The methods are indicator

for lending and application forms in reference library. Librarian: William Jones.

Cheltenham Ladies' College Library is in the town. Librarian: Miss E. S. Fegan, M.A.

GLOUCESTER (50,029). Public Library. Brunswick Road Progressive Library, with Dewey classification and open access. Has local collection. Librarian: Roland Austin. The cathedral is very interesting. From here Worcester may be reached by rail by way of Tewkesbury and Malvern, which possesses a municipal library.

WORCESTER (47,987). Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery in the Victoria Institute. Has reading and debating circles in connection. Open access installed from 1904. Librarian and Curator: Thomas Duckworth. Worcester is a very interesting cathedral city, with pretty environs.

WARWICK (11,858). The Public Library is small, but quite up-to-date in most of its methods. Librarian: W. T. Carter. The castle is well worth a visit, and the town is picturesque and interesting.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, Warwickshire (8,532). Has two interesting libraries—the Public Library and the Library in the Shakespeare Memorial. Librarian: W. Salt Brassington. This is, of course, the centre for Shakespeare pilgrims from all over the world, and is a quaint, picturesque town, which must on no account be passed by without a visit. Near this are the ruins of Kenilworth Castle, which are well worth a visit.

LEAMINGTON (or Royal Leamington Spa), Warwickshire (26,717). Has a Public Library in Avenue Road organized on the ordinary lines. The town is well worth a visit for its own sake. Librarian: W. E. Owen.

COVENTRY, Warwickshire (106,377). Public Library. One of the older libraries, which has been thoroughly overhauled on progressive lines within recent years. Has the Dewey classification, and open access restricted to non-fictional works. There is also a children's department. A branch library for Foleshill is situated in Holmsdale Road. Librarian: S. A. Pitt. The town is the centre of the cycle and motor-car industry, and is renowned for various historical associations connected with Lady Godiva, etc. Lichfield and the Potteries can be reached from Birmingham.

NOTTINGHAM (259,942). Public Libraries. Central in University College Buildings, with 11 delivery stations. Special local collection, and Byron and the Lace Industry. Has lectures, library talks, school libraries, and other activities. Methods: Indicator and application forms. Librarian: J. Potter Briscoe. The Mechanics' Institution might be visited as an example of an interesting survival.

From this point the traveller may go north to Newcastle and Edinburgh, or south to Bristol, and finish with London.



## YORK CENTRE.

**SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE (454,653).** Central Library, Surrey Street. Seven branches, eight delivery stations in various parts of the City, organised on somewhat old-fashioned lines. Indicator methods of charging. Librarian: Samuel Smith. There is an interesting library connected with the University called the Edgar Allen Library, opened in 1907. There are also the Mappin Art Gallery and the Ruskin Museum.

**BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE (288,505).** Public Library, Darley Street. Twenty-two branches. There is a special collection of Yorkshire books. Card charging is the method of issue. Cartwright Memorial Hall is a rate-supported museum and art gallery. Librarian and curator: Butler Wood. There are several other libraries in the town.

**LEEDS, YORKSHIRE (445,568).** Central building forms part of the Municipal buildings, and comprises the usual departments. There are twenty-one branches and three evening reading rooms. The borough of Leeds, like Bradford, covers a very large area. Librarian: Thos. W. Hand. In Leeds there is an art gallery and museum, and it is the head-quarters of the Yorkshire Union Village Library, which supplies villages in Yorkshire with boxes of books. Other institutions are the Leeds Institute of Science, Art, and Literature, Cookeridge Street. Librarian: Arthur Tait.

**HULL, YORKSHIRE (284,502).** Central Public Library, Albion Street. There are four branches, and the method of charging is by means of indicators. The whole of the book-binding is done on the library premises. Librarian: William F. Lawton.

**HARROGATE, YORKSHIRE (33,706).** Public Library in Victoria Avenue. A new building recently adapted to the Open Access system. Librarian: Geo. W. Byers. This is a very fine health resort, and its baths are celebrated throughout the world. It is also situated in the midst of the Yorkshire Moors, and is very picturesque and healthy.

**YORK (82,500).** Public Library housed in an adapted building with indicator for lending charging, and partial open access in reference department. Librarian: Arthur H. Furnish. There is an art gallery and a museum. The cathedral, York Minster, is one of the finest ecclesiastical buildings in England, and has a library reputed to number 20,000 volumes. This can generally be seen by visitors. York, like Chester, has portions of the ancient walls in good preservation. It is also an important railway centre. The city and its surroundings are full of historical associations.

**MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKSHIRE (104,787).** The Public Library is housed in the new Carnegie building, arranged for open access to non-fiction. The Subject classification is used in the lending department. There are two newsrooms apart from the central building, and there is also the Dorman Memorial Museum. Librarian and curator: Baker Hudson.

DURHAM (17,550). There is no municipal library here, but the Cathedral itself and the library attached to it are well worth a visit. There is also a library in the University buildings, and Mechanics' Institute, open to subscribers only. This city is well worth a visit, if only for its important historical associations.

SUNDERLAND, DURHAM (151,162). Public Libraries, Art Gallery, and Museum are all situated in one fine building in the Borough Road, among nicely laid out gardens. There are three branch libraries, and all these and the central are arranged for open access, with the Dewey classification. Branch libraries are established, designed for oversight from a central position. Librarian and curator : J. Charlton Deas.

GATESHEAD, DURHAM (116,928). Public Library building, Swinburne Street. Lending charging cards for non-fiction, indicator for fiction. Obliterates betting news from newspapers. Librarian : H. E. Johnston.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, NORTHUMBERLAND (226,671). Public Libraries: Central library and four branch buildings. Open access with classification in branches; Central library, mainly card charging, Dewey classification in use; for fiction, author-and-title indicator serving as catalogue. Has a very fine collection of Bewick's works in the Central Reference Library. A busy and progressive library system, well worth visiting. Librarian : Basil Anderton, M.A.

TYNEMOUTH, NORTHUMBERLAND (58,822). This is a popular watering place, sometimes called North Shields. The lending library has an indicator with partial open access, and the reference department has open shelves. Has a fine collection of engravings. Librarian : Alfred Hair.

#### EDINBURGH CENTRE.

Most of the Scotch libraries are organised on old-fashioned lines, but nevertheless, a good deal is to be seen in them. Edinburgh (320,315), like London, Oxford, and Cambridge, is full of libraries, and it will only be possible to indicate a few of the most important. Public Library, Central building, George IV. Bridge, and branch buildings, some of them containing rooms for games, like draughts and dominoes. An indicator is used for charging in the lending department, and application forms in the reference department. There are ladies' and children's rooms at the central library. Librarian: Hew Morrison, LL.D.

A very important library is the Advocates' Library founded in 1682. It contains about half a million volumes and is entitled to receive a copy of everything published in the United Kingdom under the provisions of the Copyright Acts. It ought to be open to the public on account of this, but permission to view it is easily obtained from the librarian or his staff. Librarian : W. K. Dickson.

Signet Library, Edinburgh, is mainly a law library, but has some fine historical and topographical collections. The main hall is a beautifully proportioned room well worth a visit. Librarian : John Minto, M.A.

University Library is well worth a visit. Librarian: F. C. Nicholson, M.A.

DUNFERMLINE, FIFE (28,103). The birthplace of Andrew Carnegie. A great centre of the linen industry. The Carnegie Public Library was first opened in 1883, and was the first library to be erected by Andrew Carnegie. Since then the library has been very much enlarged, and there are now three branches. The library takes part in the activities of the Carnegie Trust, and has been reorganised within recent years. There are school libraries, children's rooms, and reading circles. Librarian : W. Munro Mackenzie.

Dunfermline Abbey is well worth a visit, as also are the pleasure grounds laid out by the Carnegie Trust. Cross from Edinburgh by the Forth Bridge.

ST. ANDREWS', FIFE. (7,851). There is no municipal library here, but there is a very fine University Library founded in 1612. Students have no difficulty in getting permission to use the library, but otherwise it is only for the use of members of the University. Librarian : James Maitland Anderson.

The ruins of the Castle, and the Golf Links are well worth visiting.

DUNDEE, FORFAR. (165,006). The Public Library is situated in the Albert Institute, along with the art gallery. The lending charging is done by means of a special indicator (Kennedy), and the reference department has several special collections, particularly Scottish music, and Dundee. There are five branches and a large central reading room, erected with money given by Andrew Carnegie. Librarian : A. H. Millar, LL.D.

Dundee is the centre of the jute manufacture, and is connected with Fife by the celebrated Tay Bridge. The country round about is very fine. There are several seaside resorts close at hand.

MONTROSE, FORFAR. (10,973). Public Library provided with the usual departments, and worked on the open access system, being the only municipal library of the kind in Scotland. Librarian : James Christison.

ABERDEEN. (163,084). Public Library situated in a fine building near the Art Gallery. A special indicator is used for the lending department, which also performs the functions of a catalogue. The children's reading room has open access. There are some fine collections, local and other. There are four branch reading rooms. Librarian : G. M. Fraser. There are two fine University Libraries, King's College, in old Aberdeen, and Marischal College, both of these are very beautiful and are well worth inspection.



Aberdeen is a city which ought on no account to be overlooked, as it is one of the finest situated cities in the United Kingdom. It is built of Aberdeen granite, and is very substantial and imposing in its effect. Union Street is one of the most dignified thoroughfares in the world.

PERTH. (35,851). The Municipal Library is situated in the Sandeman building, which is rather nicely designed. The lending department method is an indicator, and the reference room, application forms. It has a picture gallery, a children's room, and other activities. Librarian: James Craigie.

GLASGOW. (About 1,000,000). Situated in three counties. There are many valuable libraries in this city, but the Public Libraries are the most important. The Mitchell Library (1877) is housed in a handsome new building in North Street, and contains many valuable collections, such as Glasgow, Local Printing, Burns, Scottish Poetry, &c. There are seventeen branch libraries, and in addition, the old Stirling and Glasgow Public Library has been converted into a Central Lending Department. The methods of working in general are indicator for Fiction and cards for Non-Fiction in the lending libraries, quick-reference collections in all the reading rooms, and application forms in the Mitchell Reference Library. There is a complete set of printed catalogues for the branches. Some of the branch libraries have a room for women, and one for boys and girls.

This library and its system is the most important in Scotland. Librarian: Francis T. Barrett.

BAILLIE'S INSTITUTE, 153, West Regent Street, was opened as a free public reference library in 1887. It contains a very good selection of general literature and is housed in an old church. Librarian: J. C. Ewing.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, in University building, Gilmorehill, overlooking the West-End or Kelvingrove Park, is very valuable and contains nearly a quarter-of-a-million volumes and manuscripts. Librarian: James L. Galbraith, who will no doubt arrange for librarian visitors to be shown over the collection. Glasgow University is a magnificent pile of buildings, designed by the late Sir Gilbert Scott, and is a very prominent land-mark in the city.

Glasgow is a centre for Tourists to the West Highlands, with extraordinary cheap facilities for steamboat and combined steamboat and railway trips. The Cathedral is well worth visiting.

PAISLEY, RENFREWSHIRE (84,477). Public Library occupies a handsome building, presented by the Coats's family. Old-fashioned indicator methods are in use but the library and museum have some very interesting specimens, and the art gallery contains many fine pictures. The MS. of Robert Watt's *Bibliotheca Britannica* is kept here. Librarian: John Renfrew.

Paisley Abbey has been restored, and is well worth a visit. Like Dundee, Paisley has been endowed with many fine institutions through the local patriotism of its great manufacturers, and it should be remembered that Mr. J. Coats established libraries all over the West Highlands of Scotland, in hundreds of little townships and hamlets.

KILMARNOCK, AYRSHIRE (38,000). Public Library and Museum are housed in the Dick Institute, a building which was burned in 1909, but has now been restored. The building is rather imposing. The methods of working are on old-fashioned lines. Librarian: H. Y. Simpson. The Burns Monument, which takes the form of a building and a tower, contains a valuable library of the works of Robert Burns, and must on no account be passed by.

AYR (32,985). Public Library housed in a Carnegie building, contains the usual departments. Lectures and occasional exhibitions are given. There is an indicator at present in use. Librarian: David Edward. Ayr is a very interesting town and is not far from Burns's birthplace and monument.

DUMFRIES AND MAXWELLTOWN (25,000). Ewart Public Library, named after the introducer of the Public Libraries Acts, who was M.P. for this district. Situated some distance from the railway station, but is worth visiting. It is established for the joint use of the inhabitants of the Boroughs of Dumfries and Maxwelltown, which are divided by the River Nith. The indicator is used in the lending department, and open access in the reference. Librarian: G. W. Shirley.

CARLISLE, CUMBERLAND (46,432). Public Library in Tullie House, near the Cathedral, contains also an art gallery and a museum. Library methods are indicator for lending and application forms for reference. There is a fine local collection, and a children's library. The museum is contained in an old mansion house, and consists mainly of all kinds of local furniture, implements and curiosities, very interesting, and neatly arranged. The Cathedral has a small library which, however, is not open to the public, unless by arrangement.

#### BRISTOL CENTRE.

BRISTOL (County of). (357,059). Public Library, College Green, occupies a very handsome new building, adjoining the Cathedral. Comprises the usual departments, and is rather an interesting building. There are nine branch library buildings in different parts of the city. Possesses some valuable special collections. Librarian: E. R. Norris Mathews. Connected with the Public Municipal Library is a Museum and Reference Library, originally founded in 1772, and transferred to the City Council in 1893. Bristol is a most interesting and picturesque town with some impressive environs at Clifton. The Cathedral is well worth visiting, and also the Church at St. Mary's Redcliffe, associated with Thos. Chatterton. The docks extend right into the town, and there is always something interesting going on.

BATH, SOMERSETSHIRE. (69,183). Has a Public Reference Library, and Museum, not established under the General Public Libraries Act. Bath is well worth visiting for its associations with various novelists and dramatists. The Roman Baths are very fine and the Abbey Church is worth a visit. The Victoria Art Gallery is part of the Museum.

CARDIFF, GLAMORGANSHIRE, WALES. (182,729). The Public Libraries, which are the most important in Wales, comprise the Central Library building and six branches, all of which are equipped with children's rooms. Much work with schools is also carried on, and there is a very fine collection of books in Welsh. The open access system is established in all the branches, with indicator in the Central Library.

The Art Gallery and Museum adjoins the library building. Librarian: Harry Farr. Near Cardiff are Llandaff Cathedral, and the great ruins of Caerphilly Castle.

ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGANSHIRE, WALES. (8,412). There is a Public Library established here containing about 7,000 or 8,000 volumes, and open access methods are in use. Librarian: Miss M. A. Jenkins.

The principal library building is the National Library of Wales, founded in 1907, and intended to form a great national collection of Welsh books and to serve as a kind of Welsh British-Museum. It contains special collections, particularly of Celtic literature, and is housed in a very fine building on the top of a hill. Librarian: John Ballinger.

EXETER, DEVONSHIRE. (48,660). Public Library forms part of the building of the Royal Memorial University College Museum and Public Library, and has several valuable special collections. The open access method is used, and the Dewey Classification. Lectures are given. Librarian: H. Tapley Soper. The Cathedral, which is well worth visiting, contains a mediæval library of several thousand volumes.

PLYMOUTH, DEVONSHIRE. (112,042). The Public Library is housed in a new building, only recently opened. Takes the place of an older building, which soon became too crowded for the work. A special indicator and card charging are used in the lending department. The library possesses a very fine collection of local literature, and there are two branch libraries. Librarian: W. H. Kearley Wright. There are other libraries in Plymouth, chiefly proprietary. The town itself is full of historical interest, especially to Americans.

#### LONDON CENTRE.

For more detailed information see "*The Libraries of London: a guide to students*, by Reginald A. Rye. 1910.



## CITY AND EAST LONDON.

**STEPNEY (280,024).** This is a Metropolitan Council area comprising the old parishes of Limehouse, Mile End Old Town, St. George's-in-the-East, and Whitechapel, each of which had libraries before their amalgamation. This is the Jewish quarter in London, and special work is done at the Whitechapel Library by the provision of Jewish literature. Whitechapel Library, in the High Street, has a very large newsroom, and here may be seen practically every type of Jew. All the branches above named are features of interest, and the Central Library, Bancroft Road, is close to the Peoples' Palace. There is a special collection of books for the blind at the St. George's-in-the-East Library. It is proposed to convert the libraries gradually to the open access system. Librarian: Albert Cawthorne.

Students' Free Library, Toynbee Hall, 28, Commercial Road, is just round the corner from the Whitechapel Public Library. This is a settlement in connection with Universities, and is a teaching centre. A number of University students live here, and give lectures on various subjects to the working classes. The Hall is often the centre of a great amount of social work among the poorer people of the neighbourhood.

**BISHOPSGATE INSTITUTE,** Bishopsgate. Close to Liverpool Street Station. An endowed library, consisting of a lending department for readers in the East part of the City, and Reference Department. Has a very extensive collection of London books, prints, maps, &c. Librarian: C. W. F. Goss. There is also a large Lecture Hall.

**CRIPPLEGATE INSTITUTE,** Golden Lane, E.C. Another endowed institution, designed as a library for the West part of the City of London, with a very large charitable side. It has a large collection of books on industrial subjects, and art design. There are branches at 69, Queen Street, Cheapside, and at St. Luke's Institute, Radnor Street, E.C., and the St. Bride Foundation Institute, noted later.

**GUILDHALL LIBRARY,** King's Street, E.C., forms part of the Guildhall. Has a large general reference library with a Reading Room attached, and possesses an interesting museum of London antiquities. Although the collection is general in character it contains a magnificent library of books on London, and a very fine collection of prints, maps, and other pictorial matter referring to the City. The National Dickens Library is also kept here, and there are also collections of various sorts.

The Guildhall Library must on no account be skipped in the visitation of London Libraries. Librarian: Bernard Kettle.

**ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL LIBRARY.** Situated in the Cathedral. Contains over 20,000 books and pamphlets. The library is largely theological, but there are extensive collections of London books and maps. Application to be made to the librarian for permission to view the Library.

**ST. BRIDE FOUNDATION INSTITUTE**, Bride Lane, Fleet Street, E.C. A general library open to residents and employees in the West part of the City, and is a branch of the Cripplegate Institute. Librarian: F. W. T. Lange. In connection with this there is a typographical library containing the collections of the late William Blades on Printing, and other collections presented by J. Passmore Edwards. It is the library of the printing and allied trades in London, and has some interesting special collections. Librarian: R. A. Peddie.

**SION COLLEGE**, Victoria Embankment. A special library designed for the benefit of the clergy of the Diocese of London. At one time possessed the privilege, under the Copyright Law, of receiving a copy of every publication issued in the United Kingdom. Contains a number of early printed books and manuscripts, and has a good collection of early Bibles. The Reading Room and Library is a very handsome apartment. Librarian: Charles H. Limbrick.

**PATENT OFFICE LIBRARY**, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane. Contains printed patent specifications of all countries, and a very fine collection of technical books. There are also in boxes on open shelves current numbers of most of the technical journals in the world. There is a printed catalogue, and the Library is accessible to anyone who signs his or her name and address in the book in the Hall. The Library is arranged on the open shelf system, and is one of the most liberally administered Government Libraries in Britain. The Patent Office Library is a department of the Patent Office, which is under the control of the Board of Trade. Librarian: E. W. Hulme, B.A.

**PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE**, Chancery Lane. Contains all public documents, including an immense number of valuable and interesting historical manuscripts. The Domesday Book and other valuable records are kept here. Access can be obtained if application is made to any of the custodians. The Library is mainly intended for the use of the staff, but select parties of the general public are occasionally admitted.

#### CENTRAL AND NORTH LONDON

**HACKNEY**, Borough of (222,587). Central Library building in Mare Street, near the Town Hall. A new building with all the usual departments. The Library is worked on Open Access system, and has a special Reading Room for Children. One branch has been opened, and others are in contemplation. The Library possesses some very valuable local collections. Librarian: Thomas Aldred.

**ISLINGTON**, Borough of (327,423). In point of population this is the largest Borough in the metropolis and is a very large and crowded residential district. The Central Library in Holloway Road is run throughout on the Open Access system, with the Subject Classification, and contains a large Lecture Room in addition to a Reference, Lending, and Children's Room, and Periodical Reading Room. Women staff employed throughout.

The North Branch, Manor Gardens, Upper Holloway, is one of the busiest branch libraries in the world, and is planned on the radiating system to obtain oversight in the Lending Department. Here there is a small Lecture Hall and Children's Department. The West branch, Thornhill Square, is a busy Library also, but is chiefly noticeable for the use made of it by children. Librarian: James Duff Brown.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, Gower Street, contains a number of large special libraries which together form a very fine general collection. There are a number of very handsome rooms, full of interesting collections. Librarian: R. W. Chambers, M.A.

BRITISH MUSEUM. It is unnecessary to describe this great National Library, which is known to all librarians. The special collections are probably unique, and its Reading Room is one of the sights of London. Chief Librarian: Sir Frederic Kenyon.

See "*The British Museum Reading Room*," by R. A. Peddie; Grafton 1s.

HOLBORN PUBLIC LIBRARY, 198, High Holborn. This Borough is formed out of the amalgamation of the old Holborn district and St. Giles's, Bloomsbury. The chief building is in High Holborn, and contains the usual departments worked by means of an indicator. The branch is housed in temporary premises, and has no feature of importance. Librarian: W. A. Taylor.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, Lincoln's Inn Fields. A large general medical library, containing current magazines and transactions of learned societies. Has a card catalogue and a spacious Reading Room. The great Medical Museum Collection of John Hunter is housed in this building. Librarian: Victor G. Plarr, M.A. At No. 13 in this square is also situated Sir John Soane's Museum of miscellaneous antiquities, pictures, &c.

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, Clare Market, off Kingsway. This contains the British Library of Political Science a huge collection of books and documents dealing with political and economical subjects, including Local Government. Library open to students, and it is here that the classes in Librarianship are held in preparation for the Library Association certificates and diplomas. The building was founded by Mr. Passmore Edwards. Librarian: B. M. Headicar.

FINSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Skinner Street, Clerkenwell, E.C. One of the first libraries in London, erected on a small angular site. In this library the safe-guarded open-access system was first introduced in 1893. There are two small branches, but these have comparatively little interest. Betting news is obliterated, and there is a Children's Room in the Central Library. Librarian: H. G. T. Cannons.

In this parish, in St. John's Street, off Clerkenwell Road, is the restored Gateway and new hall of the Grand Priory of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England. There is a library relating to the



Order kept in St. John's Gate, which is the head-quarters also of the St. John's Ambulance. The Gate and the Hall are well worth seeing, as it has memories of Dr. Samuel Johnson, *The Gentleman's Magazine*, and other notable events. This is the only complete gate left in London. Nearby, there is the Priory Church of St. John, which includes a remarkable crypt and remains showing the circular walls of the church. Both crypt and gate can be seen on application to Mr. H. W. Fincham, Churchwarden, Spa Works, Northampton Row, E.C., in the immediate proximity.

**HAMPSTEAD PUBLIC LIBRARIES.** Central Library, Finchley Road, can be reached from St. Pancras Station, Finchley Road, or North London Railway from Broad Street, or Highbury, Islington to Finchley and Frognal Station, the latter is close beside the library. The Central building contains a very good Reference Department, including the collection of the late Henry Morley. The charging is by means of indicator in the Central Library, and open access in the branches. Librarian: W. E. Doubleday.

## WEST LONDON

**ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE**, Wimpole Street, near Cavendish Square. This Institution comprises the Libraries of a number of medical and surgical societies which have been amalgamated and housed in a new building. This is a very fine example of a scientific library, with spacious and elegant main reading hall and various store and other rooms appropriate to a large library. There are finely fitted up lecture halls and accommodation for clinical and other purposes. It is, in short, a combination of a library, a school, and a club. The building itself is handsome and well appointed. Secretary: J. Y. W. MacAlister; Librarian: C. R. Hewitt.

**LONDON LIBRARY**, St. James's Square, is a large subscription Library founded by Carlyle, Gladstone, Milman, Hallam, and others. It contains a quarter of a million volumes and is arranged in a series of rooms, some of which are of iron construction throughout, on the plan of the American book-stacks. There are handsome reading rooms, and the classification is alphabetical by subjects. It has elaborate printed author and subject catalogues. Librarian: C. T. Hagberg Wright, LL.D.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION LIBRARY**, Charles Street, Whitehall, is a library of books on educational subjects, and has recently been re-classified and removed to special rooms. It has a special classification and printed and manuscript catalogues. Librarian: A. E. Twentyman. It is open for public reference.

**ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE**, Northumberland Avenue. A library composed chiefly of books on the British Colonies. There is a large

reading room where colonial newspapers are kept. It is a private Institute, but access is easily obtained on application to the librarian. It has a very valuable collection of books on the British Colonies. Librarian: P. Evans Lewin.

**WESTMINSTER PUBLIC LIBRARIES.** There are three general libraries belonging to this city, which were all established separately by different parishes before the City of Westminster was amalgamated in 1899. The most central is the original Westminster Library in Gt. Smith Street, behind Westminster Abbey. The old St. Martin-in-the-Fields Library is at the Trafalgar Square end of St. Martin's Lane, and the present Central Library in Buckingham Palace Road, near Victoria Station. There is also a branch in South Audley Street. St. Martin's Library has a mosaic paved Reading Room, and rather a nice Reference Department. The Gt. Smith Street building has a rate-payers' room, and the usual departments, whilst the Buckingham Palace Road Library is a spacious nicely planned building worked in the Lending Department by means of an indicator. Librarian: Frank Pacy.

**VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM,** South Kensington. In addition to the magnificent collection of art and other objects contained in this museum there are several special libraries. The Art Library, the Science Library, and prints and engravings, which are well worth visiting. Librarian of the Art Library: James H. Palmer. The Science Library, which includes the books of the geological survey, and the Museum of Practical Geology, Librarian: L. W. Fulcher. Prints and Engravings: E. F. Strange.

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON LIBRARY,** South Kensington, S.W., opposite the Imperial Institute. Contains the Goldsmith Library of books on Economics and other subjects. Librarian: Reginald A. Rye.

**CHELSEA PUBLIC LIBRARY,** Manresa Road, King's Road. Adjoining the South-Western Polytechnic, has a large collection of art books, a nicely fitted Reference Department, and Children's Room in the Basement on the American plan. Has special collections relating to Thomas Carlyle and Keats. Librarian: J. H. Quinn.

#### SOUTH LONDON.

**LAMBETH PALACE LIBRARY,** has nearly 50,000 printed books and manuscripts, mostly theological in character. The Reading Room, which is very imposing, is open to the public for reference purposes, and should be visited before four o'clock in the afternoon. Librarian: Rev. Claude Jenkins, M.A.

Lambeth Public Libraries, including the Tate Central Library, Brixton Oval, S.W., branches at Herne Hill Road, Kennington, North Lambeth, South Lambeth Road, West Norwood, and branches jointly

with Camberwell in the Minet Building, Knatchbull Road, and jointly with Croydon at Upper Norwood. Herne Hill Road and Upper Norwood are on the open access system; the others are all indicator libraries. There is a Children's Library at the Minet building in Knatchbull Road. The Central Library possesses a collection relating to Sir Francis Bacon. Librarian: F. J. Burgoyne.

**BATTERSEA PUBLIC LIBRARIES.** Central building, Lavender Hill, with branches at Lurline Gardens, Lammas Hall, Bridge Road West, and Plough Road. Has a collection of music and a museum. Lectures and Children's Recreation Rooms. Librarian: Lawrence Inkster.

**WANDSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARIES,** comprise Streatham, Wandsworth, Clapham and Putney. The present Borough of Wandsworth is formed by the amalgamation of the districts mentioned and some others. Most of these libraries are administered on ordinary English lines with indicators and dictionary catalogues. Each district has a different librarian, Streatham having Thomas Everett; Wandsworth, C. T. Davis; Clapham, J. Reed Welsh; Putney, William T. Bradley.

**CROYDON (169,559).** An independent County Borough area in Surrey. The Central Library forms part of the Town Hall, and possesses a very fine Reading Room called the Braithwaite Hall. The Lending Department is worked on the open access principle, as also is the Reference Department. A special collection of great interest is the Photographic Survey and Record of Surrey. Other activities are library talks, lectures, reading circles, exhibitions, &c. There are branches at South Norwood, Thornton Heath, and Upper Norwood, which is supported jointly with the Borough of Lambeth. Librarian: L. S. Jast. This is one of the most progressive Public Libraries in England, and has been influential on modern library practice in Britain.

#### TOWNS SOUTH OF LONDON.

**BOURNEMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE (78,677).** High-class watering place. One Central and four branch libraries. The Central Library is a new building and has several features of much interest, including a music collection of a very valuable and complete nature. The whole of the libraries are conducted on the open access system, and possess a good collection of local works. Apart from the library the town and its environs are very beautiful, and it is a famous health resort.

**PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE (231,165).** Public Library, removed from the Town Hall to a new building in Town Hall Square, Park Road. The libraries are all worked on the indicator system and there are three branches in various parts of the town. Librarian: Tweed D. A. Jewers.



WORTHING, SUSSEX (33,308). Public Library housed in a new building of good design. Has a special Sussex collection and an Art Gallery and Museum. The library is organized on the open access system, and is managed by a female staff. Librarian : Marian Frost.

HOVE, SUSSEX (42,173). Public Library, Church Road. Organised in a well-designed library on the open access system, with Dewey classification. Has the nucleus of a small Museum. Librarian : John W. Lister. The Borough of Hove adjoins Brighton.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX (131,250). Has a Public Library organised on the open access system, with a Museum, Art Gallery, and various special collections of books and birds. Some important art exhibitions are held here from time to time, and the library building is near the celebrated Brighton Pavilion. Librarian : H. D. Roberts.

#### TOWNS WEST AND NORTH OF LONDON.

READING, BERKSHIRE (75,214). Central Library contains the usual departments. Method of charging : open access and card charging. Classification : Brown's Adjustable. There is an Art Gallery and Museum, School Libraries and Children's Reading Rooms. One branch library. Librarian : W. H. Greenhough. This is a convenient point from which to visit Windsor Castle and Eton.

HORNSEY, MIDDLESEX (84,602). Central Library, Tottenham Lane, near Hornsey Station. There are two branch libraries, and the Central Library has a collection of North London prints and engravings. Charging method : open access and cards. Classification : Brown's Adjustable. Librarian : Thomas Johnston.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX (124,597). Central Library, High Street. Branch library, Higham's Park. Delivery stations in connection with schools, special collection of Essex literature. &c. Central Library : indicator for fiction, open access for non-fiction. Has a juvenile section and lecture room. Librarian : G. E. Roebuck.

ST. ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE (18,132). Public Library, housed in new Carnegie building. Open access to all departments. Children's Reading Room. Librarian : E. W. Green. The Abbey Church of St. Albans has been restored in modern times, and has been the cause of much controversy. The surroundings are very picturesque, and the whole district is full of historical interest. Lord Bacon buried in St. Michael's Church.

LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE (50,000). Has a new Carnegie building for Public Library purposes, close to the Town Hall. Charging methods : open access in all departments. Betting news obliterated. Librarian : Thomas E. Maw. This town is the centre of the straw-plaiting industry.

**NORWICH, NORFOLK (121,493).** Public Library organised on old-fashioned lines, but now being re-organised. Has a collection of local material. Librarian: G. A. Stephen. The Norfolk and Norwich Library, 1784, was an old subscription library, which has been re-organised after burning in 1898. A great feature of Norwich is the magnificent Cathedral.

**CAMBRIDGE (40,028).** Like Oxford, Cambridge possesses a large number of college libraries, some of them of great interest. The University Library obtains books under the Copyright Act, and has many special collections. Librarian: Francis Jenkinson. A collection which is well worth examining is the FitzWilliam Museum. **MAGDALENE COLLEGE**, containing Library of Samuel Pepys, Peterhouse College Library, Queen's College, and Trinity Hall Library, which contains a chained collection. The Public Library is arranged on old-fashioned lines and contains the usual departments. There are three small branch reading rooms. Librarian: W. A. Fenton.

**PETERBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (33,578).** Public Library organised on ordinary lines, with Lending and Reference Departments worked by means of indicators and the Dewey Classification. Librarian: W. J. Willcock. The Cathedral is one of the most famous in England, and has a small library attached.

[THE END.]













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